THE Earle of Gowries Conſpiracie againſt the Kings Maieſtie.

At Saint Johnſtoun vpon Tueſday the fift day of Auguſt : And in the ſixteene hundred yeares of *our Lord God.*

Printed at London by Valentine Simmes, dwelling on Adling hill at the ſigne of the white Swanne.
1600.

GOWRIES (Earle of) Conspiracie against the Kings Maiestie, small 4to. *uncut* 1603

Extremely rare. Dr. Laing's copy sold for £6. 2*s* 6*d*.

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1603.

A Diſcourſe, of the vnnaturall and *vile conſpiracie, attempted againſt his* Maieſtes perſon at Saint Iohnſtoun, vpon *the fift day of Auguſt being Tueſday.* *1600.*

HIs Maieſtie hauing his reſidence at *Falkland*, and being dayly at the Bucke-hunting (as his vſe is in that ſeaſon) vpon the fift day of *Auguſt*, being Tueſday, he raide out to the Parke, betweene ſixe and ſeauen of the clocke in the morning, the weather being wonderfull pleaſant and ſeaſonable. But before his Maieſty could leape on horſe backe, his Highneſſe being now come downe by the Equerie: all the huntſmen with hownds attending his Maieſtie on the greene, and the Court making to their horſes, as his Highneſſe ſelfe was: Maſter *Alexander Ruthwen*, ſecond brother to the late Erle of *Gowrie* being then lighted in the towne of *Falkland*, haſted him faſt downe to ouertake his Maieſtie before his on-leaping, as he did. Where meeting his Highneſſe, after a very lowe curteſie, bowing his head vnder his Maieſties knee, (although he was neuer wont to make ſo lowe curteſie) drawing his Maieſtie aparte, hee beginnes to diſcourſe vnto him (but with a very deiected countenaunce, his

eyes euer fixed vpon the earth) how that it chaunced him in the euening before, to be walking abroad about the fields, taking the aire ſolitary alone, without the Towne of Saint *Iohnſtoun*, where his preſent dwelling with the Lord his brother was: and there, by accident, affirmed to haue recountred a baſe-like fellow, vnknowne to him, with a cloke caſt about his mouth: whome as he enquired his name, and what his errand was to be paſſing in ſo ſolitarie a parte, being from all wayes: the fellow became on a ſodaine ſo amazed, and his tongue ſo faultred in his mouth, that vppon his ſuſpicious behauiour he begunne more narrowly to looke vnto him and examine him: and perceiuing that there appeared ſome thing to be hidde vnder his cloke, he did caſt by the lappes of it, and ſo findes a great wide pot to be vnder his arme, all full of coyned Golde in great peeces, aſſuring his Maieſtie that it was in very great quantity. Vpon the ſight wherof (as he affirmed) hee tooke backe the fellow with the burthen to the Towne, where he priuately, without the knowlege of any man, tooke the fellow, and bound him in a priuie derned houſe: and after locked many doores vppon him, and left him there and his pot with him, and had haſted himſelfe out of ſaint *Iohnſtoun* that day by foure houres in the morning, to make his Maieſtie aduertiſed thereof, according to his bound dutie: earneſtly requeſting his Maieſtie with all diligence and ſecreſie, that his Maieſtie might take order therewith, before any know thereof: ſwearing and proteſting, that he had yet concealed it from all men: yea, from the Earle his owne brother. His Maieſties firſt anſwere was (after thanking him for his good will) that it could not become his Maieſtie to meddle any wayes in that matter, ſince no mans treaſure that is a free and lawefull ſubiect, can by the lawe, appertaine vnto the King, except it be found hidde vnder the earth, as this was not. Whereunto he anſwered, that the fellowe confeſſed vnto him that hee was going to haue hidde it vnder the ground, but could

could not take leiſure at that time to enquire any further of him. Whereunto his Maieſty replyed, that there was great difference betwixt a deede, and the intention of a deede: his intention to haue hidde it, not being alike as if it had beene found already hidde. Maiſter *Alexanders* anſwere was, that hee thought his Maieſtie ouer ſcrupulous in ſuch a matter, tending ſo greatly to his Maieſties profite: and that if his Maieſtie deferred to meddle with it, that it might be, that the Lord his brother, and other great men might meddle with it, and make his Maieſtie the more adoe; whereuppon the King beginning to ſuſpect that it had beene ſome forraine gold brought home by ſome Ieſuites for practiſing Papiſtes (therewith to ſtirre vp ſome newe ſedition, as they haue oftentimes done before) inquired of the ſaid maſter *Alexander*, what kinde of coyne it was, and what a fellowe he was that carried it. His anſwere was, that ſo farre as hee could take leiſure to ſee of them, that they ſeemed to be forraigne ſtrokes of coyne, and although the fellow, both by his language and faſhions ſeemed to be a Scots fellow, yet he could neuer remember that he had ſeene him before. Theſe ſpeeches increaſed his Maieſties ſuſpition, that it was forraigne coyne, brought in by ſome practiſing Papiſtes, and to be diſtributed into the Countrie, as is before ſaide: And that the fellow that carried it, was ſome Scots Prieſt, or Seminarie ſo diſiguiſed, for the more ſure tranſporting therof.

Whereupon his Maieſty reſolued that he would ſend back with the ſaide Maiſter *Alexander*, a ſeruant of his owne, with a warrant to the Prouoſt and Bailiffes of Saint *Iohnſtoun*, to receiue both the fellow and the money at maiſter *Alexanders* hand, and after they had examined the fellow, to retaine him and the treaſure, till his Maieſties further pleaſure was knowne.

Whereat the ſaide maiſter *Alexander* ſtirred maruelouſly: affirming and proteſting, that if either the Lorde his bro-

ther, or the Bayliffes of the Towne were put on the counſaile thereof: his Maieſtie would gette a very badde count made to him of that treaſure, ſwearing that the great loue and affection hee bare vnto his Maieſtie, had made him to preferre his Maieſtie in this caſe, both vnto himſelfe and his brother. For the which ſeruice hee humbly craued that recompence, that his Maieſtie would take the paines once to ride thither, that hee might be the firſt ſeer thereof himſelfe: which being done, hee would remitte to his Maieſties owne honourable diſcretion, how farre it would pleaſe his maieſtie to conſider vpon him for that ſeruice.

His Highneſſe being ſtricken in great admiration, both of the vncouthneſſe of the tale, and of the ſtrange and ſtupide behauiour of the Reporter: and the Court being already horſed, wondering at his maieſties ſo long ſtay with that Gentleman, the morning being ſo faire, the game already found, and the huntſmen ſo long ſtaying in the fields on his maieſtie: hee was forced to breake off, onely with theſe words, that hee could not now ſtay any longer from his ſport, but that hee would conſider of the matter, and at the end of his chaſe, giue him a reſolute anſwere, what order hee would take therein. Whereuppon his maieſtie parted in haſte from him towards the place where the game was.

Maiſter *Alexander* parting from his maieſtie very miſcontent, that indelayedly he raide out to Saint *Iohnſtoun* as he deſired him: proteſting that his maieſtie would not finde euery day ſuch a choyce of hunting, as he had offered to him, and that hee feared that his maieſties long delay and ſloweneſſe of reſolution, would breede leaſure to the fellow, who was lying bound, to crie, or make ſuch dinne, as would diſappoynt the ſecrecie of that whole purpoſe, and make both the fellowe and the treaſure to be meddled with, before any word could come from his Maieſtie: as alſo, that his brother would miſſe him, in reſpect of his abſence that morning, which

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if his maieſtie had pleaſed to haſte, hee might haue preuented: arriuiug there in the time of his brothers, and the whole towns being at the Sermon: whereby his Maieſtie might haue taken ſuch ſecret order with that matter, as hee pleaſed, before their out-comming from the Church. But his maieſtie, without any further anſwering him, leaping on horſe backe, and riding to the dogges, where they were beginning to hunt, the ſaide maiſter *Alexander* ſtayed ſtill in that place where he left his maieſtie: and hauing two men with him, appointed by the Earle his brother, to carry backe vnto him the certaine newes in all haſte, of his maieſties comming (as heereafter more particularly ſhall in this ſame diſcourſe be declared.)

Hee directed the one of them called *Andrew Henderſon*, Chamberlaine to the ſaide earle, to ride in all the haſte to the earle, commaunding him, as hee loued his brothers honour, that he ſhould not ſpare for ſpilling of his horſe, and that he ſhould aduertiſe the earle, that hee hoped to mooue his maieſtie to come thither, and that he ſhould not yet looke for him, the ſpace of three houres thereafter, becauſe of his Maieſties hunting, adding theſe wordes: Pray my Lord my brother to prepare the dinner for vs. But his Maieſtie was no ſooner ridden vppe to a little hill aboue the little woodde, where the dogges were laide on in hunting: but that notwithſtanding the pleaſant beginning of the chaſe, hee could not ſtay from muſing and wondering vpon the newes. Whereupon without making any body acquainted with this purpoſe, finding *Iohn Neſmith* Chirurgian, by chance riding beſides him, his maieſtie directed him backe, to bring maiſter *Alexander* with him: who being brought vnto his maieſtie; and hauing newly directed, as ſaide is, one of his men that was with him, backe to my Lord his brother, his maieſtie vnknowing or ſuſpecting that any man liuing had come with him, then toide him that he had beene aduiſing with himſelfe, and in reſpect of his laſt wordes ſo earneſt with him, hee reſolued to ride thither

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for that arrand in his owne perſon, how ſoone the chaſe was ended, which was already begunne. Like as his Maieſtie, vppon the very ending of theſe words, did ride away in the chaſe, the ſaid maiſter *Alexander* following him at his backe, no other creature being with his Highneſſe, but hee and *Iohn Hamilton* of *Grange*, one of his Maieſties Maiſter ſtablers, the reſt of the Court being all before in the chaſe, his Maieſty onely being caſt backe vpon the ſtaying to ſpeake with Maiſter *Alexander*, as is before ſaid.

The Chaſe laſted from about ſome ſeauen of the clocke in the morning, vntill eleauen, and more, beeing one of the greateſt and foreſt Chaſes that euer his Maieſtie was at: all which time the ſayde maiſter *Alexander* was (for the moſt part) euer at his maieſties backe, as is ſayde. But there neuer was any ſtop in the Chaſe, or ſo ſmall delay, that the ſayde maiſter *Alexander* omitted to round his maieſtie, earneſtly requeſting him to haſten the end of the hunting, that he might ride the ſooner to ſaint *Iohn-ſtoun*. So as at the death of the Bucke, his maieſty, not ſtaying vpon the curry of the Diere, (as his vſe is) ſcarcely tooke time to alight, awaiting vpon the comming of a freſh horſe to ride on, the greatneſſe of the chaſe hauing wearied his horſe.

But the ſaide maiſter *Alexander* would not ſuffer the King to ſtay in the parke where the Bucke was killed, while his freſh horſe, which was already ſent for, was brought out of the equery to him, (although it was not two flight ſhotte off betwixte the Parke where the Bucke was killed, and his Maieſties equery:) but with very importunitie forced his Maieſty to leape on againe vpon that ſame horſe, that hee had hunted all the day vpon, his freſh horſe being made to gallop a mile of the way to ouertake him: his Maieſtie not ſtaying ſo much as vpon his ſword, nor while the Duke and the Earle of *Marre*, with diuerſe other Gentlemen in his company had changed their horſe: Onely ſaying vnto them, that hee

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was to ride to ſaint *Iohn-ſtoun* to ſpeake with the earle of *Gowrie*, and that he would be preſently back againe before euen.

Whereuppon ſome of the Court gallopped backe to *Falkeland* as faſt as they could, to chaunge their horſe, but could not ouertake his Maieſtie, vntil hee came within foure miles of Saint *Iohnſtoun*. Others rode forward with their horſe, wearied as they were, whereof ſome were compelled to alight by the way, and had they not both refreſhed their horſes, fed them, & giuen them ſome graſſe by the way, they had not caried them to S. *Iohnſtoun*. The cauſe of his Maieſties ſeruants following ſo faſt, vndeſired by him, was onely grounded vpon a ſuſpition they had conceiued that his maieſties intention of riding, was for the apprehenſion of the maſter *Olephant*, one who had late laide downe a vile and prowd oppreſſion in *Angus*, For repairing of the which, they thought his Maieſtie had ſome purpoſe for his apprehenſion.

But the ſaide Maiſter *Alexander*, ſeeing the Duke and the Earle of *Mar*, with diuerſe of the Court, getting freſh horſe for following of his Maieſtie, earneſtly deſired him, that he would publiſh to his whole traine, that ſince hee was to returne the ſame euening, as is afore-ſaid, they needed not to follow him, eſpecially that hee thought it meeteſt his maieſty ſhould ſtay the duke & the Earle of *Mar* to folow him, and that he ſhould onely take three or foure of his owne ſeruants with him, affirming, that if any noble man followed him, he could not anſwer for him, but that they would marre that whole purpoſe. Whervpon his Maieſtie halfe angry, replied, that hee would not miſtruſt the duke nor the earle of *Mar* in a greater purpoſe than that, and that hee could not vnderſtand what hinderance any man could make in that errand.

But theſe laſt ſpeeches of maiſter *Alexanders*, made the King beginne to ſuſpect what it ſhould meane: wherevpon many and ſundry thoughts beganne to enter into the Kinges minde: yet his maieſtie could neuer ſuſpect any harme to be

intended againſt his Highneſſe by that yoong Gentleman, with whom his maieſtie had beene ſo well acquainted, as he had, not long before, beene in ſuit to be one of the Gentlemen of his Chamber: ſo as, the fartheſt that the Kings ſuſpition could reach to, was that it might be that the Earle his brother had handled him ſo hardly, that the yong Gentleman, being of a high ſpirite, had taken ſuch diſpleaſure, as hee was become ſomewhat beſide himſelfe, which his Maieſtie coniectured, as well by his raiſed and vncouth ſtaring, and continual penſiueneſſe all the time of the huntings as likewiſe; by ſuch ſtrange ſort of vnlikely diſcourſes as are already mentioned.

Whereuppon the King tooke occaſion to make the Duke of *Lennox* acquainted with the whole purpoſe, enquiring of him very earneſtly what hee knew of that good Gentlemans nature, being his brother in lawe: and if hee had perceiued him to be ſubiect to any high apprehenſion, his maieſtie declaring his ſuſpition plainely to the ſaid Lord Duke, that hee thought him not well ſetled in his wits: alwaies deſiring my Lord Duke not to fall to accompany him into that houſe, where the alleged fellow and treaſure was.

The Lord Duke wondred much at that purpoſe, and thought it very likely: yet he affirmed, that hee could neuer perceiue any ſuch appearance in that Gentlemans inclination. But maiſter *Alexander* perceiuing his maieſties priuie conference with the Duke, and ſuſpecting the purpoſe as it appeared, came to the King, requeſting his maieſtie very earneſtly, he ſhould make none liuing acquainted with that purpoſe, nor ſuffer none to goe with his maieſtie where he ſhould conuoy him, but himſelf only, vntil his maieſty had onee ſeene the fellow and the treaſure: whereunto his maieſtie halfe laughing gaue anſwer, that he was no good teller of mony, & behooued therefore to haue ſome to helpe him in that errand: his replie was, that he would ſuffer none to ſee it but his maieſties ſelfe at the firſt, but afterwards he might cal in whom he pleaſed.

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Theſe ſpeeches did ſo increaſe his ſuſpition, that then hee begaune directly to ſuſpect ſome treaſonable deuiſe. Yet many ſuſpitions and thoughts ouerwhelming one euery one another in his minde, his maieſtie could reſolue vpon no certaine thing, but rode further on his iourney, betwixt truſt and diſtruſt, being aſhamed to ſeem to ſuſpect, in reſpect of the cleanneſſe of his maieſties owne conſcience, except he had found ſome greater ground. Maiſter *Alexander* ſtill preaſing the King to ride faſter, though his owne horſe was ſcarcely able to keepe company with the King for wearines, having ridden with him all the chaſe before. The King being come two mile from *Falkeland*, maiſter *Alexander* ſtayed a little behinde the King in the way, and poſted away the other ſeruant *Andrew Ruthwen* to the Earle his brother, aduertiſing him how farre the King was on his way to come thither. Then howe ſoone ſoeuer the King came within a mile of *Iohn-ſtoun*, he ſaide to his Maieſtie, that he would poſt in before, to aduertiſe the earle his brother of his maieſties comming: who at his incomming to him, was ſitting at the midſt of his dinner, neuer ſeeming to take knowledge of the Kings comming, till his brother told it him, notwithſtanding that twoo of his ſeruants had aduertiſed him thereof before. And immediately vpon his brothers report, riſing in haſte from the boord, and warning all the ſeruants and friends to accompany him to meete his Maieſtie, who met him with three or foure ſcore men, at the end of the Inſhe, his Maieſties whole traine, not exceeding the number of fifteene perſons, and all without any kinde of armour, except ſwords, no not ſo much as daggers or whingears. His Maieſtie ſtayed an houre after his comming to the ſaid Earles lodging in Saint *Iohnſtoun* before his dinner came in. The long ſommeſſe of preparing the ſame, and badnes of the cheere, being excuſed vpon the ſodaine comming of his Maieſtie vnlooked for there.

During which time, his Maieſtie enquired of maiſter *A-*

lexander, when it was time for him to goe to that priuate houſe about that matter whereof he had informed him: who anſwered, that all was ſure enough, but that there was no haſte yet for an houre, till the King had dined at leaſure. Praying his maieſty to leaue him, and not to be ſeene to round with him before his Brother, who hauing miſſed him that morning, might thereuppon ſuſpect what the matter ſhould meane; Therefore his maieſtie addreſſed him to the Earle, and diſcourſed with him vpon ſundry matters, but could get no direct anſwere of him, but halfe words, and imperfect ſentences.

His maieſtie being ſet downe to his dinner, the ſaide Earle ſtood very penſiue, & with a deiected countenance at the end of his maieſties table, oft rounding ouer his ſhoulder, one while to one of his ſeruants, and another while to another: and oft times went out and in to the chamber. Which forme of behauior he likewiſe kept before the kings ſitting downe to dinner: but without any welcomming of his maieſtie, or any other heartie forme of entertainment. The noblemen and gentlemen of the Court that were with his maieſtie ſtanding about the table, and not deſired to dine (as the vſe is when his maieſty is once ſet downe, and his firſt ſeruice broughtvp) vntill his maieſty had almoſt dined. At which time the Earle conueyed them forth to their dinner, but ſate not downe with them himſelfe (as the common maner is) but came backe and ſtood ſilent at the end of the Kings table, as he did before: which his maieſtie perceiuing, began to entertaine the Earle in a homely maner, wondring he had not remained to dine with his gueſts, and entertaine him there.

His Maieſtie being ready to riſe from the table, and all his ſeruants in the hall at their dinner, maiſter *Alexander* ſtanding behinde his maieſties backe, pulled quietly vppon him, rounding in his maieſties eare, that it was time to goe, but that hee would faine haue beene quit of the Earle his brother, wiſhing the King to ſend him out into the hall, to entertaine

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his gueſts: whereupon the King called for drinke, and in a merry and homely maner ſaide to the Earle, that although the Earle had ſeene the faſhion of entertainement in other countries, yet he would teach him the Scottiſh faſhion, ſeeing hee was a Scottiſh man: and therefore ſince hee had forgotten to drinke to his maieſtie, or to ſit with his gueſts and entertaine them, his maieſtie would drinke to him his owne welcome, deſiring him to take it forth and drinke to the reſt of the company, and in his maieſties name to make them welcome. Whereupon as he went foorth, his maieſtie roſe from the table, and deſired maiſter *Alexander* to bring Sir *Thomas Erſkine* with him: who deſiring the King to goe forward with him, and promiſing that hee ſhould make any one or two follow him that he pleaſed to call for, deſiring his maieſtie to commaund publikely that none ſhould follow him. Thus the King accompanied onely with the ſaide maiſter *Alexander*, comes forth of the Chamber, paſſeth through the end of the hall, where the Noblemen and his Maieſties ſeruants were ſitting at their dinner, vp a turne-pecke, and through three or foure Chambers, the ſaide maiſter *Alexander* euer locking behinde him euery doore as he paſſed: and then with a more ſmiling countenance than he had all the day before, euer ſaying, he had him ſure and ſafe enough kept: vntill at the laſt, his maieſtie paſſing through three or foure ſundrie houſes, and all the doores locked behinde him, his maieſtie entered into a little ſtudy, where hee ſaw ſtanding with a very abaſed countenance, not a bondman, but a freeman, with a dagger at his girdle. But his Maieſtie had no ſooner entred into that little ſtudy, and maiſter *Alexander* with him, but maiſter *Alexander* locked the ſtudy doore behinde him, and at that inſtant changing his countenance, putting his hatte on his head, and drawing the dagger from that other mans girdle, held the poynt of it to the Kings breaſt, avowing now, that the King behooued to be in his will, and vſed as hee liſt:

ſwearing many bloody oths, that if the King cried one word, or opened a window to look out, that dagger ſhould preſently goe to his heart: affirming, that he was ſure, that nowe the Kings conſcience was burthened for murthering his father. His maieſty wondring at ſo ſodaine an alteration, and ſtanding naked, without any kinde of armour but his hunting horne, which he had not gotten leiſure to lay from him, betwixt theſe two Traitors which had conſpired his life: the ſaid maiſter *Alexander* ſtanding (as is ſaide) with a dagger in his hand, and his ſword at his ſide: but the other trembling & quaking, rather like one condemned, than an executioner of ſuch an enterpriſe.

His maieſtie begun then to dilate to the ſaid maſter *Alexander*, how horrible a thing it was for him to meddle with his maieſties innocent blood, aſſuring him it would not be vnreuenged, ſince God had giuen him children and good ſubiects, and if they neither, yet God would raiſe vp ſtocks and ſtones, to puniſh ſo vile a deede.

Proteſting before God, that he had no burthen in his conſcience for the execution of his father: both in reſpect that at the time of his fathers execution, his maieſtie was but a *minor* of age, and guided at that time by a faction which ouer-ruled both his maieſtie, and the reſt of the country: as alſo that whatſoeuer was done to his Father, it was done by the ordinary courſe of Law and Iuſtice.

Appealing the ſaid maſter *Alexander* vpon his conſcience how well he at all times ſince had deſerued at the hands of all his race, not onely hauing reſtored them to all their lands and dignities, but alſo in nouriſhing & bringing vp of two or three of his ſiſters, as it were in his owne boſome, by a continuall attendance vppon his maieſties deereſt bedfellow in her priuie chamber.

Laying alſo before him, the terrors of his conſcience, eſpecially, that he made profeſſion, according to his education, of

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the ſame religion which his maieſtie had euer profeſſed: and namelie, his maieſtie remembred him of that holy man, maiſter *Robert Rollocke*, whoſe ſcholler he was, aſſuring him, that one day the ſaid maiſter *Roberts* ſoule would accuſe him, that he had neuer learned of him to practiſe ſuch vnnatural cruelty. His maieſtie promiſing to him, on the word of a prince, that if he would ſpare his life, and ſuffer him to goe out againe, hee would neuer reueale to any fleſh liuing, what was betwixt them at that time, nor neuer ſuffer him to incurre any harme or puniſhment for the ſame.

But his maieſties feare was, that hee could hope for no ſparing at his hands, hauing ſuch cruelty in his lookes, and ſtanding ſo irreuerently couered with his hat on, which forme of rigorous behauiour, could prognoſticate, nothing to his maieſty, but preſent extremity. But at his Maieſties perſwaſiue language, he appeared to be ſomewhat amazed, and vncouering his head againe, ſwore and proteſted that his Maieſties life ſhould be ſafe, if he would behaue himſelf quietly, without making noyſe or crying: and that he would onely bring in the earle his brother, to ſpeake with his Maieſtie: whereupon his maieſty enquiring what the earle would doe with him, ſince (if his maieſties life were ſafe according to promiſe) they could gaine little in keeping ſuch a priſoner. His anſwere only was, that he could tell his maieſtie no more, but that his life ſhould be ſafe, in caſe he behaued himſelfe quietly, the reſt, the Earle his brother, whome hee was going for, would tell his maieſty at his comming. With that, as hee was going foorth for his brother, as he affirmed, he turned him about to the other man, ſaying theſe words vnto him, I make you heere the Kings keeper, till I come backe againe, and ſee that you keepe him, vpon your owne perill: and therewithall ſaide to his Maieſtie, you muſt content your ſelfe to haue this man now your keeper, vntill my comming backe.

With theſe wordes he paſſeth forth, locking the dore after him.

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ter him, leauing his Maieſtie with that man he found there before him. Of whome his maieſty then enquired, if he were appoynted to be the murtherer of him at that time, and howe farre he was vpon the counſell of that conſpiracie, whoſe anſwer with a trembling and aſtoniſhed voyce and behauiour, was, that as the Lord ſhould iudge him, he was neuer made acquainted with that purpoſe, but that hee was put in there perforce, and the dore lockt vpon him, a little ſpace before his maieſties comming: as indeede all the time of the ſaid maſter *Alexanders* menacing his maieſtie, hee was euer trembling, requeſting him, for Gods ſake, and with manie other atteſtations, not to meddle with his maieſtie, nor to doe him any harme. But becauſe M. *Alexander* had before his going forth, made the King ſweare he ſhould not cry, nor open any window, his maieſtie commanded the ſaide fellow to open the window on his right hand, which he readily did: ſo that although he was put in there to vſe violence on the King, yet God ſo turned his heart, as he became a ſlaue to his priſoner.

While his maieſtie was in this dangerous eſtate, and none of his owne ſeruants nor traine knowing where hee was, and as his maieſties traine was riſing in the Hall from their dinner, the Earle of *Gowrie* being preſent with them, one of the Earle of *Gowries* ſervants comes haſtilie aſſuring the Earle his maiſter, that his maieſtie is horſed, and away through the Inſhe, [illegible] the Earle reporting to the noblemen, and the reſt [illegible] maieſties traine that was there preſent, they all ruſhed out together at the gate in great haſte: and ſome of his maieſties ſeruants enquiring of the Porter when his maieſtie went foorth? The Porter affirmed, that the King was not yet gone foorth. Whereuppon the Earle looked very angerly vpon him, and ſaide, hee was but a liar: yet turning him to the Duke, and to the Earle of *Marre*, ſaid he ſhould preſently get them ſure word where his maieſtie was, and with that, ranne through the cloſe

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and vp the ſtaires. But his purpoſe indeede, was to ſpeake with his brother, as appeared very well by the circumſtance of time; his brother, hauing at that ſame inſtant, left the King in the little ſtudy, and ran downe the ſtairs in great haſte.

Immediately after, the Earle commeth backe, running againe to the gate, where the noble men and the reſt were ſtanding in a maze, aſſuring them that the King was gone long ſince out at the backe gate, and if they haſted them not the ſooner, they would not ouertake him, and with that, called for his horſe, whereat they ruſht all together out at the gate, and made toward the Inſhe, crying for all their horſes: paſſing all (as it was the prouidence of God) vnder one of the windowes of that ſtudy, wherein his Maieſtie was. To whome maiſter *Alexander* very ſpeedily returned, and at his in comming to his Maieſtie, caſting his hands abroad in a deſperate maner, ſaide: he could not mend it, his maieſtie behooued to dy: and with that offered a garter to binde his maieſties hands, with ſwearing, he behooued to be bound. His maieſtie at that worde of binding, ſaid, hee was borne a free King, and ſhould die a free King. Wherevppon, he griping his Maieſty by the wreſt of the hand, to haue bound him, his Maieſtie relieued himſelfe ſodainely of his gripes: wherevppon, as hee put his right hand to his ſword, his Maieſtie with his right hand ſeazed vpon both his hand and his ſword, and with his left hand, claſped him by the throate, like as he with his left hand claſpt the King by the throate, with two or three of his fingers in his Maieſties mouth, to haue ſtayed him from crying. In like maner of wreſtling, his maieſtie perforce drewe him to the window, which he had cauſed the other man before to open vnto him, and vnder the which was paſſing by, at the ſame time, the Kings traine, and the Earle of *Gowrie* with them, as is ſaide, and holding out the right ſide of his head and right elbowe, cryed, that they were murthering him there in that treaſonable forme: whoſe voyce being inſtantly heard and knowne by the Duke

of *Lennox*; the Earle of *Marre*, and the reſt of his Maieſties traine there : the ſayde Earle of *Gowrie* euer asking what it meant : And neuer ſeeming any wayes to haue ſeene his Maieſtie, or heard his voyce, they all ruſhed in at the gate togither, the Duke and the Earle of *Marre* running about to come by that paſſage his Maieſtie came in at. But the Earle of *Gowrie* and his ſeruants made them for another way vp a quiet Turne-pecke, which was euer condemned before, and was onely then left open, (as appeared) for that purpoſe.

And in this meane time, his Maieſtie, with ſtrugling and wraſtling with the ſaide maiſter *Alexander*, had brought him perforce out of that ſtudy, the doore whereof, for haſte, he had left open at his laſt in-comming, and his maieſtie hauing gotten, (with long ſtrugling) the ſaid maiſter *Alexanders* head vnder his arme, and himſelfe on his knees, his Maieſtie droue him backe perforce hard to the doore of the ſame turne-pike, & as his Maieſtie was throwing his ſword out of his hand, thinking to haue ſtricken him therewith, and then to haue ſhot him ouer the ſtaire, the other fellow ſtanding behinde the Kings backe, and doing nothing but trembling all the time. Sir *Iohn Ramſay*, not knowing what way firſt to enter, after hee had heard the Kings crie, by chance findes that Turne-pecke dore open, and following it vp to the head, enters in into the chamber, and findes his Maieſtie and maſter *Alexander* ſtrugling in that forme, as is before ſaid : and after hee had twiſe or thriſe ſtricken maiſter *Alexander* with his dagger, the other man withdrew himſelfe, his maieſtie ſtill keeping his gripes, and holding him cloſe to him : immediatly thereafter he tooke the ſaid maiſter *Alexander* by the ſhoulder, and ſhot him downe the ſtaire: who was no ſooner ſhot out at the dore, but he was met by Sir *Thomas Erskine*, and Sir *Hew Hereis*, who there vpon the ſtaire ended him: the ſaid ſir *Thomas Erskine* being caſt behinde the Duke and the Earle of *Marre* that ranne about the other way, by occaſion of his medling with the ſaide late

Earle

Earle in the Streete, after the hearing of his Maieſties crie. For vpon the hearing thereof, hee had claſped the Earle of *Gowrie* by the gorget, and caſting him vnder his feete, and wanting a dagger to haue ſtricken him with, the ſaid Earles men rid the Earle their maiſter out of his hands: whereby he was caſt behinde the reſt, as is ſaide: and miſſing the company, and hearing the ſaide Sir *Iohn Ramſays* voyce vpon the Turne-pecke head, ranne vp to the ſaide Chamber, and cried vpon the ſaide Sir *Hew Hereis*, and another ſeruant to follow him: where, meeting with the ſaid maiſter *Alexander* in the Turne-pecke, he ended him there, as is ſaide: the ſaid maiſter *Alexander* crying for his laſt words, Alas I had not the weight of it. But no ſooner could the ſaide Sir *Thomas*, Sir *Hew*, and another ſeruant winne into the Chamber where his Maieſtie was, but that the ſaid Earle of *Gowrie*, before they could get the doore ſhut, followed them in at the back, hauing caſt him directly to come vp that priuie paſſage, as is before ſaide: who at his firſt entrie, hauing a drawne ſword in euery hand, & a ſteele bonet on his head, accompanied with ſeauen of his ſeruants, euery one of them hauing in like manner a drawne ſword, cried out with a great oath, that they ſhould all die as traitors. All the which time his maieſtie was ſtill in the chamber, who ſeeing the Earle of *Gowry* come in with his ſwords in his hands, ſought for maſter *Alexanders* ſworde which had falne from him at his outſhutting at the doore, hauing no ſort of weapons of his owne, as is ſaide: but then was ſhut backe by his owne ſeruants that were there, into the little ſtudie, and the doore ſhut vpon him, who hauing put his maieſtie in ſafety, re-encountred the ſaide earle and his ſeruants, his maieſties ſeruants being onely in number foure, to wit, Sir *Hugh Hereis*, Sir *Iohn Ramſay*, and one *Wilſon*, a ſeruant of *Iames Erskins*, a brother of the ſaid Sir *Thomas*, the ſaid earle hauing ſeauen of his owne ſeruaunts with him: Yet it pleaſed God, after many ſtrokes on all hands, to giue his maieſties ſeruants the victorie, the ſaide earle of *Gowry*

being ſtriken dead with a ſtroke through the heart, which the ſaid Sir *Iob. Ramſay* gaue him, without once crying vpon God, and the reſt of his ſeruants dung ouer the ſtaires with many hurts, as in like maner the ſaid Sir *Thomas Erskin*, Sir *Hugh Hereis*, and Sir *Iohn Ramſay*, were all three very ſore hurte and wounded.

But all the time of this fight, the Duke of *Lennox*, the earle of *Mar*, and the reſt of his maieſties traine, were ſtriking with great hammers at the vtter dore, whereby his Maieſtie paſſed vp to his chamber with the ſaid maiſter *Alexander*, which alſo he had lockt in his by-comming with his maieſty to the chamber: but by reaſon of the ſtrength of the ſaide double doore, the whole wal being likewiſe of boords, and yeelding with the ſtrokes: it did bide them the ſpace of half an houre and more, before they could get it broken and haue entreſſe: who hauing met with his Maieſtie, found (beyond their expectation) his Maieſtie deliuered from ſo imminent a perill, and the ſaid late earle the principall conſpirator lying dead at his Maieſties feete. Immediately therafter his Maieſtie kneeling downe on his knees, in the midſt of his owne ſeruants, and they all kneeling round about him: his maieſtie out of his owne mouth thanked God of that miraculous deliuerance and victory, aſſuring himſelfe that God had preſerued him from ſo diſpaired a perill, for the perfiting of ſome greater worke behinde, to his glory, and for procuring by him, the weale of his people, that God had committed to his charge After this the tumult of the Towne hearing of the ſlaughter of the ſaide earle of *Gowrie* their Prouoſt, and not knowing the maner thereof, nor being on the counſel of his treaſonable attempt, continued for the ſpace of two or three houres therafter, vntil his maieſty by oft ſpeaking out to them at the windowes, and beckoning to them with his owne hand pacifying them, cauſing the bailiffes and the reſt of the honeſt men of the town to be brought into the chamber, to whom hauing declared the whole forme of

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that ſtrange accident, hee committed the houſe and bodies of the ſaide traytours brethren, to their keeping, vntill his maieſties further pleaſure were knowne. His maieſtie hauing before his parting out of that Towne, cauſed to ſearch the ſaide earle of *Gowries* pockets, in caſe any letters that might further the diſcouery of that conſpiracie might be found therein. But nothing was found in them, but a litle cloſe parchment bagge, full of magicall characters, and words of inchantment, wherein it ſeemed that he had put his confidence, thinking himſelfe neuer ſafe without them, and therfore euer carried them about with him: being alſo obſerued, that while they were vpon him, his wound whereof hee died, bled not, but incontinent after the taking of them away, the blood guſhed out in great abundance, to the great admiration of the beholders. An infamie which hath followed and ſpotted the race of this houſe, for many deſcents, as is notoriouſly knowne to the whole countrie. Thus the night was far ſpent, being neere eight houres at euening before his maieſtie could (for the great tumult that was in the Towne) depart out of the ſame. But before his maieſtie had ridden foure miles out of the ſame towards *Falkland*, though the night was very darke and raine: the whole way was clad with all ſorts of people, both horſe and foote, meeting him with great ioy and acclamation. The frequencie and concourſe of perſons of all degrees to *Falkeland*, the reſt of the weeke, and to *Edenburgh* the next, from all the quarters of the country, the teſtimony of the ſubiects harty affection and ioy for his maieſties deliuery, expreſſed euery where, by ringing of bells, bonefiers, ſhooting off gunnes of all ſortes, both by ſea and land, &c. with all other things enſuing thereupon, I haue of ſet purpoſe pretermitted, as well knowne to all men, and impertinent to this diſcourſe: contenting my ſelfe with this plaine and ſimple narration: adding onely for explanation and confirmation thereof, the depoſitions of certaine perſons, who were either actors, and eye-witneſſes, or immediate

hearers of thoſe things that they declare and teſtifie : wherein, if the Reader ſhall finde any thing differing from this narration, either in ſubſtance or circumſtance, he may vnderſtand the ſame to be vttered by the deponer in his owne behoofe, for obtaining of his Maieſties Princely grace and fauour.

Apud Falkland. 9. Auguſt. 1600.

In preſence of the Lord Chancellor, Lord Treaſurer, Lord Secretary, Lord Comptroller, Lord Aduocate, the Lord Incheffray, and Sir George Home of Spot, Knights.

I *Ames Weimis* of *Bogie*, of the age of 26. yeere or thereby, ſworne and examined vpon the forme and maner of behauiour of late *Iohn* Earle of *Gowrie*, the time of his being with him at *Strabran*, or if he had heard the ſaide earle make any motion of the treaſon intended againſt his royall maieſtie, depones, that he neither heard, nor ſaw, any appearance of any ſuch intention in the ſaid earle.

Demanded, if he was in any purpoſe with the ſaid earle, againſt any matters of curioſitie : depones, that at their being in *Strabran*, ſome of their company found an edder, which being killed, and knowledge thereof comming to the earle, the earle ſaid to this deponer, *Bogie*, if the edder had not beene ſlaine, ye ſhould haue ſeene a good ſporte, for I ſhould haue cauſed her ſtand ſtill, and ſhe ſhould not haue preſſed away, by pronouncing of one Hebrew word, which in Scottiſh is called *Holines*, but the Hebrew word the deponer remembers not of : and that the earle ſaid, he had put the ſame in practize oft before. And this deponer enquiring of the earle, where he got the hebrew word, the Earle aunſwered, in a Cabbaliſt of the Iewes, and that it was by Tradition : and the deponer inquiring what a Cabbaliſt meaned : the earle anſwered, it was ſome wordes which the Iewes had by Tradition, which words were

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ſpoken by God to *Adam* in Paradiſe, and therefore were of greater efficacie and force than any woordes which were excogitate ſince by Prophets and Apoſtles. The deponer inquiring if there were no more requiſite, but the worde, the Earle anſwered, that a firme faith in God was requiſite, and neceſſary: and that this was no matter of maruel amongſt ſchollers, but all theſe thinges were naturall. And that the Earle ſhewed to this deponer, that he had ſpoken with a man in *Italie*; and firſt hearing, by report, that hee was a Nigromancer, and thereafter being informed that he was a very learned man, and a deep Theologue, he entred in further dealing with him againſt the curioſitie of nature.

Depones further, that the ſayde Earle reported to him, that hee being at muſicke, hee fell in company with an other man, who ſtaring in the Earles face, ſpake to the reſt of the company things of him, which hee could never attaine vnto, nor be worthy of: and therfore, that the earle reproached him, and deſired him to forbeare theſe ſpeeches. And that he met againe with the ſaide man in a like company, who did beginne with the ſame language which he had ſpoken before: and that the Earle ſaide to him, my friend, in caſe ye will not holde your peace from ſpeaking lies of mee, I will make you hold your peace, by ſpeaking truth of you, and ſaid vnto him, within ſuch a ſpace he ſhould be hanged for ſuch a crime: and ſo it came to paſſe. This Deponer enquiring of the earle, who tolde him that, he anſwered merily, that he ſpake it by gueſſe, and it fell out ſo. And that the earle ſaide further, that it was nothing to make an hearbe fleſh which would diſſolue in flies: and that likewiſe it was poſſible that the ſeed of man and woman, might be brought to perfection otherwiſe than by the matrix of the woman: and that this Deponer counſelled the earle to beware with whom he did communicate ſuch ſpeaches: who anſwered that hee would ſpeake them to none, but to great ſchollers, and that he would not haue ſpoken them to this Deponer, if

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he had not knowne him to be a fauorer of him, and a friend of his houſe, and he would not reueale the ſame againe, ſeeing he knew they would be euill interpreted amongſt the common ſorte. *Sic ſubſcribitur. I. Weimys of Bogie.*

Apud Falkland. 20. Auguſt 1600.

In preſence of the Lordes Chancellor, Treaſurer, Aduocate, Sir George Home of Spot, Sir Robert Meluill, and Sir Iames Meluill, Knights.

MAiſter *William Rinde*, ſworne and examined, and demanded, where he firſt did ſee the Characters which were found vpon my Lord, depones, that he hauing remained a ſpace in *Venice*, at his returning to *Padua*, did finde in my Lordes pocket, the characters which were found vpon him at his death: and the Deponer enquiring of my Lord, where he had gotten them, my Lord anſwered, that by chance he had copied them himſelfe: and that the Deponer knowes that the Characters in Latine are my Lords owne hand-writing, but hee knowes not if the Hebrew Characters were written by my Lord. Depones further, that when my Lord would change his cloathes the Deponer would take the characters out of my Lords pocket, and would ſay to my Lord; Wherefore ſerue theſe? And my Lord would anſwere, can ye not let them be? They do you no euill. And further, the Deponer declares, that ſometimes my Lord would forget them, vntill he were out of his Chamber, and would turne backe, as he were in an anger, vntill hee had found them, and put them in his owne pocket: Depones further, that hee was ſundry times purpoſed to haue burned the Characters, were it not that hee feared my Lords wrath and anger: ſeeing when the Deponer would purpoſely leaue them

them ſometimes out of my Lords pocket, my Lord would be in ſuch an anger with the deponer, that for a certaine ſpace he would not ſpeake with him, nor could not find his good countenance. And that (to this deponers opinion) my Lord would neuer be content to want the characters of himſelfe, from the firſt time that the deponer ſawe them in *Padua*, to the houre of my Lords death.

Being demanded for what cauſe my Lord kept the Characters ſo well, depones, that to his opinion, it was for no good, becauſe he heard, that in thoſe parts where my Lord was, they would giue ſundery folkes breeues.

Depones further, that maiſter *Patricke Galloway* lette this Deponer ſee the characters, ſince that he came to this Towne of *Falkland*, and that he knowes them to be the very ſame characters which my Lord had. Depones alſo, that on monday the fourth of Auguſt, the maiſter of *Andrew Henderſon*, and the deponer remained in my Lordes chamber till about ten houres at euen, and after a long conference betwixt the Lord and the maiſter, my Lord called for *Andrew Henderſon*, and after ſome ſpeeches with him, diſmiſſed them.

Denies that he knewe of the maiſters or *Andrew Henderſons* riding to *Falkland*, and after *Andrews* returne from *Falkland*, vpon the morrow, howbeit he did ſee him booted, yet he knew not that he was come from *Falkland*.

Depones that my Lord being at dinner when the maiſter came in, the deponer heard my Lord ſay to the maiſter; is the King in the Inſhe? And with that he did riſe, and ſaid, let vs go. But the deponer knowes not what the maiſter ſaide to my Lord.

Being demaunded if he did ſee any kind of armour or weapons, except ſwordes in the Kings company, depones that he did ſee none.

It being demanded how the deponer was ſatisfied with my Lords anſwere made to him, concerning the Kings com-

ming to ſaint *Iohnſtoun*, ſaying that hee knewe not how hee came: declares that he thought that my Lord had diſſembled with him, and that he behooued to haue knowne it, ſeeing his brother was come with his Maieſtie before that hee demanded of him, and that hee had conferred with my Lord priuily.

Depones, that he knew not that the maiſter was ridden to *Falkland* vntil after his Maieſties comming to ſaint *Iohnſtoun*, that *Andrew Ruthwen* tolde him, becauſe the deponer inquired of *Andrew Ruthwen*, where the maſter and hee had bin, and that *Andrew* anſwered, they had been in *Falkland*: and that the maiſter hauing ſpoken with the King his maieſty, came forward with them, and that this conference betwixt the deponer and *Andrew Ruthwen* was in the yeard when my Lord was there. And *Andrew Ruthwen* ſhewed to the deponer, that *Andrew Henderſoun* was directed by the maſter, to ſhew my Lord, that his Maieſtie was comming.

Depones alſo, that in his opinion, the maiſter could not haue drawne the King to my Lords houſe, without my Lordes knowledge: and that when hee heard the tumult, hee was reſolued in his heart the maiſter had done his maieſtie wrong, and that no true Chriſtian can thinke otherwiſe, but that it was an high treaſon, attempted againſt his Highneſſe by the maſter and the Lord.

Depones alſo, that to his opinion, the Kings whole company was within a dozen of men.

Sic ſubſcribitur. M. W. Rind.

22. Auguſt. 1600.

Maiſter *William Rind* ſworne and re-examined, if euer hee heard the Earle of *Gowrie* vtter his opinion, anent the duetie of a wiſe man, in the execution of an high enterpriſe: declares, that being out of the country, he had diuerſe times heard him reaſon in that matter, and that hee was euer of that opinion, that he was not a wiſe man, that hauing intended

ded the execution of an high and dangerous purpoſe, communicate the ſame to any but to himſelfe, becauſe keeping it to himſelfe, it could not be diſcouered nor diſapppointed: which the deponer declared before vnrequired to the Controller, and Maiſter *William Cowper* miniſter, at *Perth*: and hearing the depoſitions of *Andrew Henderſoun* read, and being enquired vpon his conſcience, what hee thought of the fact that was committed againſt his Maieſtie, declares, that vpon his ſaluation, that he beleeeues *Andrew Henderſonn* has declared the circumſtances truely.

Sic ſubſcribitur. M.W.Rynd.

Apud Falkland. 20. *Auguſt.* 1600.

In preſence of the Lorde Chancellour, Treaſurer, Aduocate: Controller, and Sir George Home of Spot, ſir Iames Melvilll, Knights.

ANdrew Henderſoun ſworne and examined, and demanded, what purpoſe was betwixt him and the earle of *Gowrie*, vppon monday at night the fourth of this inſtant in the ſaide Earles chamber: depones, that the Earle inquired of him what hee would be doing vpon the morne, and hee anſwered, that hee was to ride to *Ruthwen*: the earle ſaid vnto him, you muſt ride to *Falkland* with Maiſter *Alexander* my Brother, and when he directs you backe, ſee that yee returne with all diligence, if he ſend a letter or any other aduertiſement with you.

Depones, that the maiſter directed him to ſend for *Andrew Ruthwen* to be in readineſſe, to ride with them the morrowe at foure houres in the morning.

Declares, that they comming to *Falkeland* about ſeauen

houres in the morning, the Maiſter ſtayed in a lodging beſide the Pallace, and directed the deponer, to ſee what the King was doing, and the deponer finding his Maieſtie in the cloſe comming forth, he paſſed backe, and told the maiſter, who immediately addreſſed himſelfe to his Highneſſe, and ſpake with his Maieſtie a good ſpace beneathe the Equirie: and after his Maieſtie was on horſe-backe, the maiſter commeth to the Deponer, and commands him to fetch their horſes, and bade him haſte him, as hee loued my Lords Honour and his, and aduertiſe my Lord, that his maieſtie and hee would bee there incontinent, and that his Maieſtie would be quiet: and the Deponer inquiring of the maiſter, if he ſhould go preſently, he did bid him leape on and follow him, and not to goe away vntil he ſpake with the King: and the maſter hauing ſpoken with the king, at a breach of the Parke wal, he turned back and bade the Deponer ride away, and the Deponer making his returne in all poſſible haſte to Saint *Iohnſtoun*, he found my Lord in his chamber, about tenne houres, who left the company hee was ſpeaking with, and came to the Deponer, and asked, hath my brother ſent a letter with you? The Deponer anſwered, no: but they will be all here incontinent, and bade the deponer deſire my Lord, to cauſe prepare the dinner. Imediatly therafter my Lord took the deponer to the cabinet, and asked at him, how his maieſtie took with the maiſter his brother? The deponer anſwered, very well, and that his Maieſtie laide his hand ouer the maiſters ſhoulder. Therafter my Lord enquired if there were many at the hunting with the King? the deponer anſwered, that he tooke no heed, but they who were accuſtomed to ride with his Maieſtie, and ſome Engliſhmen, were there: and that my Lord enquired what ſpeciall men were with his maieſtie, and that the deponer anſwered, hee did ſee none but my Lord Duke. And within an houre therafter, when the deponer came in from his owne houſe, the Erle bade him put on his ſecret and plaite-ſleeues, for he had an hie-land

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man to take, which the Deponer did incontinent: and about twelue houres, when the Deponer was going out to his owne houſe to dinner, the Steward came to him and told him, that *George Cragingelt* was not well, and was laine downe, deſired him to tarry and take vp my Lords dinner: and about halfe an houre after twelue, my Lord commanded him to take vp the firſt ſeruice. And when the deponer was commanded to take vp the ſecond ſeruice, the maiſter and *William Blaire* came into the hall to my Lord.

The deponer remembreth himſelfe. that *Andrew Ruthwen* came before the maiſter a certaine ſpace, and ſpake with my Lord quietly at the Table, but heard not the particular purpoſe that was amongſt them. And ſo ſoone as the maiſter came to the Hall, my Lord, and the whole company roſe from the Table: and the deponer hearing the noyſe of their forthgoing, ſuppoſed they were going to make breakes for *Maconilduy*: and the Deponer ſent his boy for his gauntlet and ſteele bonnet: and ſeeing my Lorde paſſe to the Inſhe, and not to the ſhoe gate, the Deponer did caſt the gantlet in the Pantry, and cauſed his boy to take his ſteele bonnet to his owne houſe: and he followed my Lord to the Inſhe, and returning backe with his Maieſtie to the lodging, beeing directed to get drinke. And the maiſter came to the deponer, and did bidde him cauſe maiſter *William Rinde* to ſend him vp the key of the Galery chamber, who paſſt vp and deliuered the key to the maiſter: and imediately my Lord followed vp, and did ſpeake with the maiſter, and came downe againe, and directed maiſter *Thomas Cranſtone* to the deponer, to come to his Lordſhip in his Maieſties Chamber. And that my Lord directed him to goe to the Gallery to his brother, and immediately my Lord followed vp, and commaunded the deponer to bide there with his brother, and to doe any thing that hee bade him: The deponer enquired at the maiſter what haue ye to do ſir? The maiſter anſwered, ye muſt go in heere,

and tarry vntill I come backe, for I will take the key with me. So he locked the deponer in the round within the Chamber, and tooke the key with him. Shortly thereafter, the maiſter returned, and the kings Maieſty with him to the ſaid cabinet, in the round: and the maiſter opening the doore, entered with the King into the ſaid round: and at his very entry couering his head, pulled out the deponers dagger, and held the ſame to his Maieſties breaſt, ſaying: Remember ye of my fathers murther? Yee ſhall now die for it: and minting to his Highneſſe heart with the dagger, the deponer threw the ſame out of his maiſters hand: and ſwore, that as God ſhall iudge his ſoule, if the maiſter had retained the dagger in his hand the ſpace that a man may goe ſixe ſteps, hee would haue ſtriken the King to the hilts with it: but wanting the dagger, and the Kings Maieſtie giuing him a gentle anſwere, hee ſaide to the Kings Maieſtie with abhominable oathes, that if hee woulde keepe ſilence, nothing ſhould aile him, if hee would make ſuch promiſe to his brother, as they would craue of him: and the Kings Maieſty inquiring what promiſe they would craue: he anſwered that he would bring his brother. So he goes forth, and lockes the doore of the round vppon his maieſtie and the deponer hauing firſt taken oath of the King that hee ſhould not cry, nor open the window.

And his Maieſty inquiring of the deponer what hee was: Hee anſwered, a ſeruant of my Lords. And his Maieſtie aſking of the deponer, if my lorde woulde doe any euill to him? The deponer anſwered, as God ſhall iudge my ſoule, I ſhall die firſt. And the deponer preſſing to haue opened the window, the maiſter entred, and ſaid: Sir, there is no remedy, by God you muſt die: and hauing a looſe garter in his hand, preſſed to haue bound his Maieſties hands, and the deponer pulled the garter out of maiſter *Alexander* his hand. And then the maiſter did put one of his hands in his Maieſties mouth, to haue ſtayed him to ſpeake, and held his other arme about his

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Highneſſe necke: and that this deponer pulled the maiſters hand from his Highneſſe mouth, and opened the window: & then his Maieſtie cried out thereat, whereupon his Highneſſe ſeruant came in at the gate, and this deponer did runne and open the doore of the Turnepecke head, whereat *Iohn Ramſay* entred: the deponer ſtood in the chamber till he ſaw *I: Ramſay* giue the maiſter a ſtroke: and thereafter priuily conueied himſelfe downe the Turnepecke to his owne houſe: and the deponers wife enquiring of him, what the fray meaned? The deponer anſwered, that the Kings Maieſtie would haue beene twice ſticked, had not he relieued him.

Sic ſubſcribitur Andrew Henderſoun
with my hand.

Further, the ſaid *Andrew Henderſon* depones, that after his returning from *Falkland* on the fift of this inſtant, maiſter *Iohn Montchrief* enquiring of him where he had beene? He anſwered, that he had bin beyond the bridge of *Erne*, and ſaies, that he gaue that anſwer to maſter *Iohn*, becauſe my lord commanded him to let no man know that hee was to ride to *Falkland*: and that my Lords direction to him, was, to come backe with his brother maiſter *Alexanders* aunſwere, and to leaue *Andrew Ruthwen* to waite vpon the Maiſter.

Sic ſubſcribitur Andrew Henderſoun
with my hand.

Further, the ſaid *Andrew Henderſon* depones, that when he had taken the maſters hand out of the kings maieſties mouth, and was opening the window, maiſter *Alexander* ſaid to him, Wilt thou not help? Wo betide thee, thou wilt make vs all die.

Sic ſubſcibitur Andrew Henderſon
with my hand.

FINIS.

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